

English was invented late in history

English lacks idioms that reach far back in time

English idioms often reveal their constructed nature by non-logic content

analysis by Nina Wild

A penny for your thoughts

penny is around for quite a bit, but intimate information is not asked for involving money, in if someone seems to be hiding certain intimate thoughts one can not address yet it is impossible to ask that certain question

money is offered when in movies someone knows the answer to a defined problem, but in real life money mostly is offered to make people not give away secrets to the police

A way of asking what someone is thinking

Actions speak louder than words

People's intentions can be judged better by what they do than what they say.

Add insult to injury

To further a loss with mockery or indignity; to worsen an unfavorable situation.

An arm and a leg

Very expensive or costly. A large amount of money.

At the drop of a hat

Meaning: without any hesitation; instantly.

Back to the drawing board

Drawing board in a cave or paleo hut?

When an attempt fails and it's time to start all over.

Ball is in your court

Ball games very popular in old Maya culture. Definition of what a ball game is by Vatican very interesting. It involves the sun.

The field would only be a court in our new times.

It is up to you to make the next decision or step

Barking up the wrong tree

Looking in the wrong place. Accusing the wrong person

Be glad to see the back of

Be happy when a person leaves.

Beat around the bush

Avoiding the main topic. Not speaking directly about the issue.

Best of both worlds

Meaning: All the advantages.

Best thing since sliced bread

Sliced bread dries quicker than a loaf of bread, a stupid custom. The only sliced bread in Switzerland is sold in plastic bags, white non-nutritional industry invention

A good invention or innovation. A good idea or plan.

Bite off more than you can chew

To take on a task that is way to big.

Blessing in disguise
Something good that isn't recognized at first.

Burn the midnight oil
To work late into the night, alluding to the time before electric lighting.

Can't judge a book by its cover

**Books were not common until very late
early books had several covers, the one on the book block and the one attached to it
the attached cover was designed to represent and give an idea what the book is about
first books were music scores, the bible, rules, Vatican pamphlets, so the writing
in the book could easily be judged by the cover
Cannot judge something primarily on appearance.**

Caught between two stools

?

When someone finds it difficult to choose between two alternatives.

Costs an arm and a leg
This idiom is used when something is very expensive.

Cross that bridge when you come to it
Deal with a problem if and when it becomes necessary, not before.

Cry over spilt milk

**When you complain about a loss from the past. ??? it is rather used when wanting to make
the point that a loss is not mend-able so complaining would be a waste of time**

Curiosity killed the cat
Being Inquisitive can lead you into an unpleasant situation.

Cut corners
When something is done badly to save money.
Cut the mustard
To succeed; to come up to expectations; adequate enough to compete or participate

Devil's Advocate
To present a counter argument

Don't count your chickens before the eggs have hatched
This idiom is used to express "Don't make plans for something that might not happen".

Don't give up the day job

**Fairly new custom to have time beside a job to be working on a hobbies or unsuccessful
financial doings, but more jobs were always common, or new income plan
You are not very good at something. You could definitely not do it professionally.
it's sarcasm guiding this advice, uncommon for a saying idiom**

Don't put all your eggs in one basket

Farmers *do* put all eggs in one place, contradicts reality, everyday doing in the kitchen they also collect the eggshells somewhere, they will crack them later and put them in a mixer and put the powder into the garden onto the earth to put back minerals
Better choose an example where splitting of stuff is necessary, like file backups
Do not put all your resources in one place.

Drastic times call for drastic measures

homeopathic wealth does good
this word is much too drastic for a saying ...
When you are extremely desperate you need to take drastic actions.

Elvis has left the building

Fairly new setting.
Elvis had a twin brother, both performed, one went to military in Germany, one married Priscilla, I learned from a PDF of Miles Mathis comparing the different faces they have
The show has come to an end. It's all over.

Every cloud has a silver lining

not true, bad observation, in any way not the first or most eye jumping fact about the beauty of a cloud
Be optimistic, even difficult times will lead to better days.

Far cry from
Very different from.
Feel a bit under the weather
Meaning: Feeling slightly ill.
Give the benefit of the doubt
Believe someone's statement, without proof.

Hear it on the grapevine

Marvin gaye heard it through the grapevine
if Marvin Gaye had to use the saying kinda wrongly, this is part of the agenda to discredit the blacks and anger them, also cut through the races
I do only know the song, the saying with the on preposition is unknown to me This idiom means 'to hear rumors' about something or someone.

Hit the nail on the head Do or say something *exactly right*

when someone does something exactly right, one would tend to use more elaborate a wording to elevate this moment according to the positive vibe the saying has

Hit the sack / sheets / hay
To go to bed.

In the heat of the moment *Overwhelmed by what is happening in the moment.
???? things went out of order due to the heated mindset or overwhelming occurrences
happening at the same time or following in short order*

It takes two to tango

Culture sensitive, Tango not an English phenomena

Actions or communications need more than one person

Jump on the bandwagon

Join a popular trend or activity.

Keep something at bay

Keep something away.

Kill two birds with one stone

Birds do get shot. If at all. Nobody has the interest to have its doings be compared to a silly fantasy visual like the killing of birds with a stone.

This idiom means, to accomplish two different things at the same time.

Last straw

This one is not understood by users it feels to me. Is it the straw that stands last in a field on harvest or is it the last straw left in the box?

The final problem in a series of problems.

Let sleeping dogs lie

Do not disturb a situation as it is - since it would result in trouble or complications.

Let the cat out of the bag Lass die Katze aus dem Sack

Stolen from the Germans, maybe, where the saying sounds like a poem compared to the staccato of the English one- To share information that was previously concealed

Make a long story short Come to the point - leave out details

the saying is not used like invented

no one says this to someone, but I heard people shorten their own stories by going *long story short* -

Method to my madness An assertion that, despite one's approach seeming random, there actually is structure to it.

I heard *there is a method to the madness*, rather than *method to my madness*, so someone saying it to someone else, rather than to oneself

Miss the boat

This idiom is used to say that someone missed his or her chance

Not a spark of decency

Meaning: No manners

Not playing with a full deck

On a boat the deck or sole is the floor

The ceiling is called head-deck, overheads

Our walls are called ceiling or bulkheads

if its the board game deck, to play with less figures makes one a loser, but not stupid

Someone who lacks intelligence.

Off one's rocker

Crazy, demented, out of one's mind, in a confused or befuddled state of mind, senile.

On the ball
When someone understands the situation well.

Once in a blue moon Meaning: Happens very rarely.

Picture paints a thousand words
A visual presentation is far more descriptive than words.

Piece of cake

Cake is a relatively new product.

A job, task or other activity that is easy or simple. ????

**misleading exploration for it is a task that *feels* easy the saying is used for
mostly used when difficult tasks have proceeded and the rest thereof feels easy to do**

Put wool over other people's eyes

?

This means to deceive someone into thinking well of them.

See eye to eye
This idiom is used to say that two (or more people) agree on something.

Sit on the fence

Humans do not sit on fences. They would not generally know it hurts to sit on a fence.

If its a kid or a bird sitting there, the saying should include this somehow.

This is used when someone does not want to choose or make a decision.

**Speak of the devil! Wenn man vom Teufel spricht ... German saying ? It is also a bit
strange the saying is not using gerundium , the present tense that is happening. The saying
though has the form of an order, with exclamation mark#**

This expression is used when the person you have just been talking about arrives.

Steal someone's thunder

?

**this saying did not make it, TX, humans do not want to be compared to sky events maybe
To take the credit for something someone else did. This is too much thought around
several corners.**

**Thunder follows the lightning makes no sense in English due to the order in which the
occurring lightning and thunder occur in nature.**

Take with a grain of salt
This means not to take what someone says too seriously.

**Taste of your own medicine Means that something happens to you, or is done to you,
that you have done to someone else**

***love potion* is an old term, but *medicine* ...?**

**it is though putting the term medicine in relation to a negative doing or want, labeling
medicine a bad thing by that**

To hear something straight from the horse's mouth

why would the messenger be a direct source of information?

If a common horse is meant, it makes no sense.

From all the animals on a farm, the cat does talk to humans, dogs cling. All other animals seem to be more distant to humans and would also not stand for an authority on a farm.

To hear something from the authoritative source.

Whole nine yards

Everything. All of it.

Wouldn't be caught dead

Would never like to do something

Your guess is as good as mine

To have no idea, do not know the answer to a question

slit ear . due to custom to tear out someones earring when cheating, lying gets known

to speed up one more hook – to put the kettle one hook further down towards the fire

a dancer's high is as good as a runner's high – it does not matter *how*,

by what means a goal or job is done.

someone is delivering goods payed by the load, so he asks the boss weather he can deliver it with his own bike, making him more efficient than on foot. The job giver does not care how the newspapers are delivered, as long as they get there unhurt, so he agrees by saying *a dancer's high is as good as a runner's high*

Gimme a break is old school, Have a break (=go away) has the same effect, would be influenced by advertisement

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